



News Release

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December 13, 2000
News Release Nr. 2000-005

Transfer of Command Authority Ceremony Held in New Orleans

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NEW ORLEANS — Ceremonies to officially recognize the transfer of the Navy's Information Technology Center in New Orleans from the Naval Reserve Force Command to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command were held November 30th at the University of New Orleans Technology Park.



ITC Kip Langston, Mr. Dale Galloway, and Rear Adm. John Gauss present the ceremonial "first plank" to the guests at the ITC New Orleans transition ceremony.

The Navy established the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in 1985 as an Echelon Two Command under the Chief of Naval Operations. Its primary mission was to meet the fleet's Command, Control and Communications requirements. It is one of four acquisition commands in the Department of the Navy, and it provides integrated information hardware and software systems for the Navy, other branches of the military and other agencies of the federal government.

With the addition of the Information Technology Center as its newest Echelon three field activity, the New Orleans center joins the other SPAWAR System Centers in Charleston, South Carolina; Chesapeake, Virginia and San Diego, California. The SPAWAR ITC brings to SPAWARSYSCOM the ability to provide cost-efficient technical solutions for human resources and other business systems.

Dr. H. Lee Buchanan III, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition was the guest speaker

for the ceremony. In addition, three U.S. Congressmen from Louisiana, William Jefferson, John Cooksey and David Vitter also gave remarks recognizing the importance of the SPAWAR ITC to the Navy, the State of Louisiana and the City of New Orleans. More than 600 guests and employees filled a ceremonial tent to capacity.

During his remarks, Mr. Dale Galloway, SPAWAR ITC Director, recounted the beginnings of the SPAWAR ITC in 1986 and its transition from Code 10 of the Naval Reserve Force to the Naval Reserve Information Systems Office to the newest field activity of an active duty Navy Systems Command.

"This transfer puts us in the mainstream of Navy Information Technology," he said. "We now have an increased opportunity for business, and we will bring results-based information technology solutions for business systems to the already robust SPAWAR portfolio."

RADM John Totushek, Commander, Naval Reserve Force (CNRF), said, "It is difficult to believe that it has only been five years since the Naval Reserve Information System Office came into being. I believe we had less than 50 government personnel assigned, along with some outside contractors, who were tasked to develop a master plan to guide our entry into the Information Technology world. I am very proud of the fact that our

Naval Reserve played a leading role in all of this from concept to construction, to having more than 1000 people working here (at the UNO Research and Technology Park) all in a period of 18 months."

Totushek said that under the CNRF, the ITC had reached a plateau under which it would be difficult to progress, thus necessitating its transfer to the SPAWAR Systems Command under whom it would receive the Information Technology focus it needed to fulfill its ambitious charter.

"RADM Totushek has .. been a principle driver behind the transfer of one of his significant Echelon Three commands to SPAWAR for the greater good of the Navy," said RADM John Gauss, SPAWARSYSCOM Commander. He also acknowledged Dr. H. Lee Buchanan's role in recognizing the need for and pursuing the consolidation of the NRISO and SEO(MP) under the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

He mentioned the role that the SPAWAR ITC and the Program Executive Officer for Information Technology (PEO-IT) would play in the Navy Marine Corps Intranet.

"The NMCI, coupled with the IT-21 initiative, establishes a global network for our Navy that will allow us to exploit information technology to fundamentally change the way we do business, achieve greater productivity and reduce the burden on our manpower requirements at sea," Gauss said.

He said that the requirement to construct the content and integrate the software and data to fully exploit the capabilities of the NMCI will need a "home."

"And Enterprise Solutions that provide content reside here at the SPAWAR ITC in New Orleans, " he said. "We are up to it. We can meet the challenge. We can seize the opportunity before us."

Throughout the ceremony, the military presence was provided by the Marine Forces Reserve Band and rifle guard and color guard personnel were provided by the Naval Reserve Force, the Naval Support Activity, New Orleans and the Naval Air Station (Joint Reserve Training Base), New Orleans.

The SPAWAR ITC, with its detachments in Millington, Tenn., and Washington, D.C., has a strength of 1,324 military and government personnel and contractors.